



MILILANI/ WAIPIO/ MELEMANU NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 25

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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**Testimony of Dick Poirier, Chair
Mililani/Waipio/Melemanu Neighborhood Board No. 25
Regarding
City Council Hearing on Bill 69 (2013), CD1
Held On
May 7, 2014**

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Chair Martin and Members,

My name is Dick Poirier and I am pleased to testify today as Chair of Neighborhood Board No. 25.

Since there is no rail transit line planned for Central Oahu, being able to utilize and optimize bus service to and from downtown, Kapolei and the Pearl Highlands Station is important to the transportation well-being of our residents.

In this regard, we adopted a resolution in support of Bill 69 by a vote of 17-1-0 at our March 2014 regular meeting, a copy of which is attached and a Be-It-Resolved clause which reads as follows:

“BE IT RESOLVED that Neighborhood Board No. 25 strongly supports needed service improvements to TheBus, to include a much-needed direct connection from Central Oahu to Kapolei, and urges support for the Mayor’s proposed exterior fixed route bus advertising plan in Bill 69 (2013)”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. We look forward to working with you and the Administration in the months ahead as we continue to plan and implement our transportation future.





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**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS TO THEBUS AND
URGING SUPPORT FOR THE MAYOR'S PROPOSED EXTERIOR FIXED ROUTE
BUS ADVERTISING PLAN**

WHEREAS, access to affordable and reliable transportation widens opportunity and is essential to addressing poverty, unemployment, and other equal opportunity goals such as access to good schools and health care services; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation (DTS) now seeks to improve service to the residents of the City & County of Honolulu, to include a much-needed direct connection from Central Oahu to Kapolei; and

WHEREAS, previously on June 3, 2012, DTS instituted service changes for TheBus that modified routes, reduced services, lengthened wait times, and/or eliminated routes entirely for thirteen different bus routes; and

WHEREAS, TheBus faces increases in operating costs at a time when it is the desire of the City & County of Honolulu's Administration and City Council that bus fares not be increased, and services be improved, prompting the Administration to consider alternative sources of sustainable revenues; and

WHEREAS, privately operated buses, carriers, trucks and trailers are permitted to advertise on the exterior of their vehicles; and

WHEREAS, state law does not prohibit exterior advertising on buses, giving the counties the power to regulate advertisement on public buses; and

WHEREAS, in response to this need for non-fare sustainable revenues to implement needed service improvements, the Mayor has proposed Bill 69 (2013), which would generate sustainable revenues to be used solely for supporting operations of TheBus and TheHandi-Van by authorizing DTS to sell advertising space on the exterior of City fixed-route, public transit buses and para transit vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Mililani/Waipio/Melemanu Neighborhood Board No. 25 finds that the Mayor's exterior bus advertising proposal is narrowly tailored to limit the types and sizes of advertisement and represents a fiscally sound decision to improve The Bus and The Handi-Van service to the people of the City & County of Honolulu; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that Neighborhood Board No. 25 strongly supports needed service improvements to TheBus, to include a much-needed direct connection from Central Oahu to Kapolei, and urges support for the Mayor's proposed exterior fixed route bus advertising plan in Bill 69 (2013); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City & County of Honolulu, all members of the Honolulu City Council, the Director of the City & County of Honolulu Department of Transportation Services, the City & County of Honolulu Department of Budget and Fiscal Services, all members of Neighborhood Board No. 35, and all neighborhood board chairs.

Adopted by Mililani-Waipio-Melemanu Neighborhood Board No. 25 at its regular meeting of March 26, 2014, by a vote of 17-1-0.


Richard G. Poirier, Chair

